

## Message Text

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 DODE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05 PC-01 /069 W

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R 191558Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1565

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, ECOM, PINT, AR

SUBJECT: WAGE NEGOTIATIONS STILL UNRESOLVED

REF: BA 4058

1. CONSTRUCTION WORKERS UNION (UOCRA) ONLY MAJOR UNION TO SIGN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONTRACT PRIOR TO JUNE 19 DEADLINE. OTHER UNION LEADERS CITED "LAST MINUTE INTERFERENCE" BY GOA WHICH PREVENTED CONCLUSION CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. ALTHOUGH THERE IS GUARDED OPTIMISM THAT MOST WILL BE SIGNED BEFORE END OF DAY, REAL POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT MINLABOR ARBITRATION WILL BE NECESSARY. IF SO, ADDITIONAL DELAY WOULD SERIOUSLY EXACERBATE ALREADY INCREASINGLY TENSE SITUATION.

2. TENSIONS ARE HIGH AND INCREASING DAILY WITH LARGE NUMBERS OF AD HOC WORK STOPPAGES, MARCHES AND DEMONSTRATIONS IN PROTEST DELAY. ADDITIONALLY, UNION LEADERS' SOLIDARITY IN FACE GOA HARD LINE POSITION HAS BEEN FURTHER STRAINED AS MANY HAVE SHARPLY CRITICIZED UOCRA SEC GEN PAPAGNO FOR HIS STATEMENTS THAT UOCRA INCREASE WILL SERVE AS GUIDELINE FOR OTHER UNIONS. CGT HAS ALSO DISAVOWED CONCURRENCE WITH UOCRA PLANS FOR JUNE 19 DEMONSTRATION AT PLAZA DE MAYO IN "GRATITUDE" TO PRES PERON. REACTION AGAINST PAPAGNO COULD SERIOUSLY JEOPARDIZE HIS POSSIBILITIES, TO NOW CONSIDERED CERTAIN, OF BEING ELECTED CGT SUBSEC GEN.

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3. UOCRA OBTAINED 45 PERCENT WAGE INCREASE BASED ON "CONFORMED WAGE" (BASE WAGE OF 1973 CONTRACT, PLUS GRAN PARITARIA AND ANY UNION NEGOTIATED RAISES). GOA'S PREVIOUS OFFER OF 45 PERCENT OF BASE WAGE ONLY HAD BEEN REJECTED BY LABOR LEADERSHIP. INCREASE WORKS OUT TO 83 PERCENT INCREASE OVER BASE WAGE. PREVIOUS UOCRA CONTRACT BASE WAGE WAS YPMUR PESOS DAILY; INCREASE WAS 50.76 PESOS. DAILY RATE NOW 163.56 PESOS UP FROM "CONFORMED WAGE" OF 112.80 PESOS.

4. PAPAGNO HAS REPORTEDLY MOVED INTO LOPEZ REGA'S CAMP; THEREFORE, HIS ACTIONS ARE NOT SURPRISING. EVEN THOUGH LOPEZ REGA IS ABSENT FROM COUNTRY, HIS HAND IS STILL EVIDENT IN EVERY MANEUVER, ALL OBVIOUSLY DESIGNED TO DISCREDIT TOP LABOR LEADERSHIP.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Draft Date:** 19 JUN 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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